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Practitioner's Docket No. 57111-5061

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Patrick W. Breslin, Michael H. Dilgard, Edward J. Votruba, David L. Simpson, and Thomas F. Bone

Application No.: 09/884,706

Filed: June 19, 2001

For: DOOR LATCHING SYSTEM

Group No.: 3677

Examiner: Carlos Lugo

OFFICIAL

Mail Stop: AF
 Commissioner for Patents
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SUBMISSION AFTER FINAL REJECTION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.129(a)

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION OF JANUARY 13, 2004 OFFICE ACTION

1. This application is pending for at least two (2) years as of June 8, 1995 (the effective date of 35 U.S.C. § 154(a)(2)).
2. This submission is the first submission made after final rejection for this application.

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.8(a) and 1.10*

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Date: April 13, 2004

Karen Earl

(type or print name of person certifying)

* Only the date of filing (§ 1.6) will be the date used in a patent term adjustment calculation, although the date on any certificate of mailing or transmission under § 1.8 continues to be taken into account in determining timeliness. See § 1.703(f). Consider "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" (§ 1.10) or facsimile transmission (§ 1.6(d)) for the reply to be accorded the earliest possible filing date for patent term adjustment calculations.

3. The submission being made herewith is:

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Applicants hereby request reconsideration of the Final Office Action mailed on January 13, 2004 by the previous Examiner, Dinesh Melwani. The references and comments that Examiner Melwani relied upon in the Action are inconsistent with the position taken by the Examiner in the Office Action mailed on January 13, 2004. Based on our conversation with Examiner Carlos Lugo, we understand that Examiner Lugo has been assigned to this case, will be withdrawing the finality of the Final Office Action, and thereafter will be providing us with further comments as to how the application will proceed.

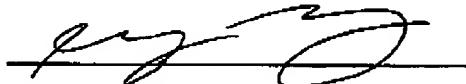
CL
S-13-04

4. Extension of time

The proceedings herein are for a patent application and the provisions of 37 C.F.R. Section 1.136 apply. Applicant believes that no extension of term is required. However, this conditional petition is being made to provide for the possibility that applicant has inadvertently overlooked the need for a petition for extension of time.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: April 13, 2004


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Submission After Final Rejection Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.129(a)--page 2 of 2